

REMARKS

By the present communication, claims 7, 9 and 12 have been amended to correct typographical errors and informalities; thus there is no issue of new matter. Accordingly, claims 1-12 remain pending, with claims 9-11 under active prosecution, while non-elected claims 1-8 and 12 are withdrawn from consideration, subject to a request for rejoinder thereof. The present status of all claims in the application is provided in the Listing of Claims, beginning on page 2 of this communication.

The restriction of claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 121 as allegedly being drawn to distinct inventions, is respectfully traversed. It is respectfully submitted that a search of one group (e.g., dendrimers disclosed herein) would, of necessity, be co-extensive with a search of one or more of the other groups (e.g., dendrimer conjugates). Thus, no savings of PTO resources will be realized by maintaining the restriction requirement as set forth herein. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement for restriction are respectfully requested.

In order to be fully responsive, Applicant hereby elects the Group V claims (i.e., claims 9-11) for prosecution on the merits. Non-elected claims 1-8 and 12 are retained in the application pending final disposition of the elected claims, and possible rejoinder thereof.

The further requirement for an election of species of a particular dendrimer is also respectfully traversed. It is respectfully submitted that the species embraced by the present claims are sufficiently related such that a search of one would, of necessity, embrace a search of the others. However, in order to be fully responsive, Applicant hereby elects the species of claim 11. Claims 9-11 read on this species.

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In view of the above amendments and remarks, prompt and favorable action on all claims are respectfully requested. In the event any matters remain to be resolved in view of this communication, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned so that a prompt disposition of this application can be achieved.

Respectfully submitted,

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